



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/760,237	01/21/2004	Kia Silverbrook	SMA05US	2187
24011 7590 02/13/2008 SILVERBROOK RESEARCH PTY LTD 393 DARLING STREET BALMAIN, 2041 AUSTRALIA			EXAMINER MARTIN, LAURA E	
			ART UNIT 2853	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 02/13/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/760,237

**Applicant(s)**

SILVERBROOK ET AL.

**Examiner**

LAURA E. MARTIN

**Art Unit**

2853

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 January 2008.  
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) 3-14 and 16-27 is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 15 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/808)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/3/04  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

Acknowledgement is made of the information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 3 November 2004. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97.

### ***Specification***

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it contains forms of the word "comprising". Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the cross-reference data on pages 1 and 2 must be supplied with the US serial numbers.

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Objections***

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: "print media, and" should be changed to "print media; and". Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Election/Restrictions***

Applicant's election without traverse of claims 1, 2, and 15 in the reply filed on 1/13/08 is acknowledged.

***Double Patenting***

Claim 1 is provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of copending Application No. 10/760220 in view of Koike et al. (US 2002/0192003 A1).

10/760237	10/760220
<p>A photofinishing system comprising a processor, a printer, means for feeding print media to the printer from a roll of the print media, and drier means coupled to the printer; the processor being arranged to generate a drive signal that is representative of a photographic image, the printer being coupled to the processor and being arranged to process the drive signal and effect printing of the photographic image on the print media, and the drier means being arranged to receive printed media directly from the printer, to transport the printed media from the printer and, in use, to effect drying of the printed media during transportation of the media.</p>	<p>A photofinishing system comprising a support structure, a processor and a printer mounted to the support structure, a cartridge containing a roll of print media arranged in use to be mounted removably to the support structure, print media feed means located in the cartridge, and drive means mounted to the support structure and arranged to couple with the print media feed means, when the cartridge is mounted to the support structure, and to effect feeding of the print media through the printer, the processor being arranged to generate a printer drive signal that is representative of a photographic image, and the printer being coupled to the processor and arranged to process the drive signal and effect printing of the photographic image on the print media as the print media is fed through the printer from the cartridge.</p>

10/760220 does not teach a drier mechanism.

Koike et al. discloses a drier mechanism (figure 2, element 50).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the photofinishing system taught in 10/760220 with the drier taught

Art Unit: 2853

by Koike et al. because it is well known to have different methods of drying within a printer. This reduces the amount of streaking and improves image quality.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

Claim 1 is provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of copending Application No. 10/760252 in view of Koike et al. (US 2002/0192003 A1).

10/760237	10/760252
A photofinishing system comprising a processor, a printer, means for feeding print media to the printer from a roll of the print media, and drier means coupled to the printer; the processor being arranged to generate a drive signal that is representative of a photographic image, the printer being coupled to the processor and being arranged to process the drive signal and effect printing of the photographic image on the print media, and the drier means being arranged to receive printed media directly from the printer, to transport the printed media from the printer and, in use, to effect drying of the printed media during transportation of the media.	A digital photofinishing system comprising a digital processor, a printer and means for feeding print media to the printer from a roll of the print media, the digital processor being arranged to receive digitised data that is representative of a photographic image and to process the data in a manner to generate a printer drive signal that is representative of the photographic image, the printer being coupled to the digital processor and arranged to process the drive signal and effect page-width printing of the photographic image on the print media as it is fed directly to the printer from the roll, and the printer incorporating at least one print head assembly that is arranged to provide for printing of the print media with a feed rate up to 2 metres per second.

10/760252 does not teach a drier mechanism.

Koike et al. discloses a drier mechanism (figure 2, element 50).

Art Unit: 2853

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the photofinishing system taught in 10/760252 with the drier taught by Koike et al. because it is well known to have different methods of drying within a printer. This reduces the amount of streaking and improves image quality.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

Claim 1 is provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of copending Application No. 10/760180 in view of Koike et al. (US 2002/0192003 A1).

10/760237	10/7602180
A photofinishing system comprising a processor, a printer, means for feeding print media to the printer from a roll of the print media, and drier means coupled to the printer; the processor being arranged to generate a drive signal that is representative of a photographic image, the printer being coupled to the processor and being arranged to process the drive signal and effect printing of the photographic image on the print media, and the drier means being arranged to receive printed media directly from the printer, to transport the printed media from the printer and, in use, to effect drying of the printed media during transportation of the media.	A digital photofinishing system comprising a digital processor, a printer and means for feeding print media to the printer from a roll of the print media; the digital processor being arranged to receive digitised data that is representative of a photographic image and to process the data in a manner to generate a printer drive signal that is representative of the photographic image, and the printer being coupled to the digital processor and being arranged to process the drive signal and effect page-width printing of the photographic image on the print media as it is fed to and through the printer from the roll.

10/760180 does not teach a drier mechanism.

Koike et al. discloses a drier mechanism (figure 2, element 50).

Art Unit: 2853

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the photofinishing system taught in 10/760180 with the drier taught by Koike et al. because it is well known to have different methods of drying within a printer. This reduces the amount of streaking and improves image quality.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

Claim 1 is rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No 7002664 B1 in view of Koike et al. (US 2002/0192003 A1).

10/760237	US 7002664 B1
<p>A photofinishing system comprising a processor, a printer, means for feeding print media to the printer from a roll of the print media, and drier means coupled to the printer; the processor being arranged to generate a drive signal that is representative of a photographic image, the printer being coupled to the processor and being arranged to process the drive signal and effect printing of the photographic image on the print media, and the drier means being arranged to receive printed media directly from the printer, to transport the printed media from the printer and, in use, to effect drying of the printed media during transportation of the media.</p>	<p>Photofinishing system comprising: a) a digital processor, a printer and means for feeding print media to the printer from a roll of the print media; the digital processor being arranged to receive digitised data that is representative of a photographic image and to process the data in a manner to generate a printer drive signal that is representative of the photographic image, the printer being coupled to the digital processor and being arranged to process the drive signal and effect printing of the photographic image on the print media as it is fed to the printer from the roll, and provided as an integrated component of the photofinishing system, and b) means for providing controlled chemical development and subsequent printing of exposed photographic film, c) a slitter means located in series with the printer, the slitter means being arranged to receive printed media following its passage</p>

	through the printer, to transport the printed media in a longitudinal direction away from the printer and to slit the printed media in the longitudinal direction of transportation of the printed media, the slitter means comprising: a) guide rollers for transporting the print media through the slitter means, b) spaced-apart slitting blades mounted on rotatable shafts, and c) a rotatable, selectively positional turret supporting the rotatable shafts.
--	--

US 7002664 B1 does not teach a drier mechanism.

Koike et al. discloses a drier mechanism (figure 2, element 50).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the photofinishing system taught in US 7002664 B1 with the drier taught by Koike et al. because it is well known to have different methods of drying within a printer. This reduces the amount of streaking and improves image quality.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Koike et al. (US 2002/0192003 A1).

**Koike et al. disclose the following claim limitations:**



As per claim 1: a photofinishing system comprising a processor (figure 1, element 16), a printer (figure 2, element 46), means for feeding print media to the printer from a roll of the print media (figure 2, elements 62 and 63), and drier means (figure 2, element 50) coupled to the printer; the processor being arranged to generate a drive signal that is representative of a photographic image (figure 1, element 42 and 44), the printer being coupled to the processor and being arranged to process the drive signal and effect printing of the photographic image on the print media [0109] – [0110]; and the drier means being arranged to receive printed media directly from the printer, to transport the printed media from the printer and, in use, to effect drying of the printed media during transportation of the media (figure 2) and [0082].

As per claim 2: the processor comprises a digital processor (digital is inherent in the definition of a printer processor) which is arranged to receive digitised data that is representative of a photographic image and to process the data in a manner to generate a printer drive signal that is representative of the photographic image [0109] – [0110], and the printer is arranged to process the drive signal and effect page-width printing of the photographic image on the print media as it is fed directly to the printer from the roll (figure 2, element 46 - printer is pagewidth).

As per claim 15: the drier means is arranged to receive printed media directly from the printer and comprises: a) guide rollers for transporting the print media through the drier means (figure 2, elements 63, 76, and 78), and b) at least one blower arranged to direct drying air onto at least one face of print media as it is transported through the dryer means [0082].

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LAURA E. MARTIN whose telephone number is (571)272-2160. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 7:00 - 3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen D. Meier can be reached on (571) 272-2149. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/L. E. M./

Laura E. Martin

/Manish S. Shah/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2853

